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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,845	10/29/2003	Robert G. Johnston JR.	04860.P0741C5	9298

7590 02/14/2008
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EXAMINER

LIANG, REGINA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2629

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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02/14/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/697,845

Applicant(s)

JOHNSTON ET AL.

Examiner

Regina Liang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***Double Patenting***

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 20-44 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-57 of U.S. Patent No. 6,690,356. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claims 20-44 are broader version of patent claims.

The following is an example for comparing claim 20 of this application and claim

37 of Patent No. 6,690,356.

Claim 20 of this application	claim 37 of Patent No. 6,690,356
A computer implemented method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating texts displayed on a display device of a computer system, the method comprising:	A machine readable medium having stored thereon executable program code which, when executed, causes a machine to perform a method for providing visual feedback to a user during manipulation of selected text on a

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	display device coupled with the machine, the machine including a control device for interactively positioning a visible symbol and an insertion caret on the display device, the machine also having a signal generation device for signaling an active state and an inactive state, the method comprising:
displaying a text object representing selected text when a visible symbol controlled by a control device is positioned near the selected text at a source location of a first window and when a button of the control device is in a second position;	a) in response to the active state of the signal generation device while the visible symbol is over the selected text at a source location on the display device: 1) creating and displaying a text object of the selected text, the text object including a visible portion of the selected text that is less than all the selected text; 2) de-emphasizing the selected text at the source location;
moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window while the button of the control device is the second position;	b) moving the text object on the display device along a line between the source location and the visible symbol until the text object reaches the visible symbol ; d) moving the visible symbol in response to the control device and moving the text object in response to movement of the visible symbol; e) in response to an inactive state of the signal generation device while the visible symbol is over a destination location: 1) on the display zooming from a first bounding rectangle for the selected text at the source location to a second bounding-rectangle for the selected text at the destination location such that the movement of the first bounding rectangle to the size and location of the second bounding rectangle at the destination location is animated; and
and displaying the selected text at the second location of the second window identified via an insertion caret when the button of the control device is in a first position.	c) displaying an insertion caret near the visible symbol to indicate a point of insertion of the selected text; 2) display on screen the selected text at the destination location

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As can be seen above, claim 20 is broader version of claim 37 of Patent No, 6,690,356; note that in the patent claim when the visible symbol (cursor) is moved the text object also moves in response thereto, and as such the text object movements follow the visible symbol's movement.

3. Claims 20-44 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2 of U.S. Patent No. 6,396,474. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other since the application claims merely define an obvious variation of the patent claims.

The following is an example for comparing claim 20 of this application and claim 2 of Patent No. 6,396,474.

Claim 20 of this application	claim 2 of Patent No. 6,396,474
A computer implemented method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating texts displayed on a display device of a computer system, the method comprising:	A method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating selected text displayed on a display device of a computer system, the computer system including a control device for interactively positioning a visible symbol on the display device, the control device having a button having a first position and a second position, the method comprising:
displaying a text object representing selected text when a visible symbol controlled by a control device is positioned near the selected text at a source location of a first window and when a button of the control device is in a second position;	a) creating a text object from the selected text when the button is in the second position while the visible symbol is over the selected text at the source location;
moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window while the button of the control device is the second position;	b) zooming from a first bounding rectangle for the selected block of text at a source location to a second bounding rectangle for the selected block of text at the destination location such that the movement of the first bounding rectangle to the size and location of the second bounding rectangle at the destination location is animated.
and displaying the selected text at the second	

location of the second window identified via an insertion caret when the button of the control device is in a first position.	
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As can be seen above, claim 2 of U.S. Patent No. 6,396,474 differs from claim 20 of this application in not displaying the selected text at the second location via an insertion caret and not moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window. However, the patent claims are in comprising format and therefore covers structure not specifically recited. The patent disclosure clearly describes displaying the selected text at the destination location via an insertion care and moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window and are encompassed by the patent claims comprising format.

4. Claims 20-44 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of U.S. Patent No. 5,694,151. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other since the application claims merely define an obvious variation of the patent claims.

The following is an example for comparing claim 20 of this application and claim 3 of Patent No. 5,694,151.

Claim 20 of this application	claim 3 of Patent No. 5,964,151
A computer implemented method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating texts displayed on a display device of a computer system, the method comprising:	A method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating selected text displayed on a display device of a computer system, the computer system including a control device for interactively positioning a visible symbol on the display device, the control device having a button having a first

	position and a second position, the method comprising:
displaying a text object representing selected text when a visible symbol controlled by a control device is positioned near the selected text at a source location of a first window and when a button of the control device is in a second position;	<p>a) in response to the button being in the second position while the visible symbol is over a selected text at a source location;</p> <p>1) creating a text object from the selected text;</p> <p>2) display on the display the text object over the selected text at the source location;</p> <p>b) initializing an interpolation factor, said interpolation factor comprising a value utilized to generate incremental steps between a starting point and an ending point;</p> <p>c) computing a distance between the text object and a first point on the display device associated with the location of the visible symbol;</p>
moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window while the button of the control device is the second position;	<p>d) moving the text object along an imaginary line between the source location and the first point to a point on the display device determined by the distance adjusted by the interpolation factor;</p> <p>e) with the button in the second position, incrementing the interpolation factor if it has not reached a maximum value, the repeating steps c) through 3);</p> <p>f) if the button is in the first position over a destination location:</p> <p>1) computing a first bounding rectangle for the selected text at the source location;</p> <p>2) computing a second bounding rectangle for the selected text at the destination location;</p> <p>3) zooming from a first bounding rectangle at a source location to a second bounding rectangle at the destination location such that the movement of the first bounding rectangle to the size and location of the second bounding rectangle at the destination location is animated.</p>
and displaying the selected text at the second location of the second window identified via an insertion caret when the button of the control device is in a first position.	displaying on the display device the selected text at the destination location after zooming from the first bounding rectangle at the source location to the second bounding rectangle at the destination location.

As can be seen above, claim 3 of U.S. Patent No. 5,694,151 differs from claim 20 of this application in not displaying the selected text at the second location via an insertion caret and not moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window. However, the patent claims are in comprising format and therefore covers structure not specifically recited. The patent disclosure clearly describes displaying the selected text at the destination location via an insertion caret and moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window and are encompassed by the patent claims comprising format.

5. Claims 20-44 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 5,561,444. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other since the application claims are broader version of patent claims.

The following is an example for comparing claim 20 of this application and claim 1 of Patent No. 5,561,444.

Claim 20 of this application	claim 1 of Patent No. 5,561,444
A computer implemented method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating texts displayed on a display device of a computer system, the method comprising:	A method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating selected text displayed on a display device of a computer system, the computer system including a control device for interactively positioning a visible symbol and an insertion caret on the display device, the computer also having a signal generation device for signaling an active state and an inactive state, the method comprising the computer implemented steps of:

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displaying a text object representing selected text when a visible symbol controlled by a control device is positioned near the selected text at a source location of a first window and when a button of the control device is in a second position;	<p>a) in response to the active state of the signal generation device while the visible symbol is over the selected text at a source location on the display device:</p> <p>1) creating and displaying a text object of the selected text, the text object including a visible portion of the selected text that is less than all the selected text;</p> <p>2) de-emphasizing the selected text at the source location;</p>
moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window while the button of the control device is the second position;	<p>b) in a finite series of steps, moving the text object on the display device along a line between the source location and the visible symbol until the text object reaches the visible symbol;</p> <p>d) moving the visible symbol in response to the control device and moving the text object in response to movement of the visible symbol;</p> <p>e) in response to an inactive state of the signal generation device while the visible symbol is over a destination location:</p> <p>1) on the display zooming from a first bounding rectangle for the selected text at the source location to a second bounding rectangle for the selected text at the destination location such that the movement of the first bounding rectangle to the size and location of the second bounding rectangle at the destination location is animated; and</p>
and displaying the selected text at the second location of the second window identified via an insertion caret when the button of the control device is in a first position.	<p>c) displaying an insertion caret near the visible symbol to indicate a point of insertion of the selected text;</p> <p>2) displaying on screen the selected text at the destination location.</p>

As can be seen above, , claim 20 is broader version of claim 1 of Patent No. 5,561,444;

note that in the patent claim when the visible symbol is moved the text object also moves in response thereto, and as such the text object movements follow the visible symbol's movement.

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6. In view of the above analysis, applicant's claims and patent claims are not patentably distinct from one another and in the absence of a terminal disclaimer would result in an unjustifiable time wise extension of applicant patent.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 28-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 28 claims "computer-readable medium having instructions..." is vague and indefinite because it is unclear how a medium can having instructions. A medium can have instructions stored on *it*, recorded on *it*, etc, but it is not clear how it can just having instructions.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

9. Claims 28-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 28 is non-statutory because a "medium" cannot having "instructions" as a result the medium is just instructions and therefore fails to fall within a statutory category under 101.

The examiner suggests changing "having" to --encoded with-- or --stored with--.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 20-44 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Greyson et al (US 5,442,742 hereinafter Greyson) in view of Peters et al (US 5,157,763 hereinafter Peters).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) might be overcome by: (1) a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not an invention "by another"; (2) a showing of a date of invention for the claimed subject matter of the application which corresponds to subject matter disclosed but not claimed in the reference, prior to the effective U.S. filing date of the reference under 37 CFR 1.131; or (3) an oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.130 stating that the application and reference are currently owned by the same party and that the inventor named in the application is the prior inventor under 35 U.S.C. 104, together with a terminal disclaimer in accordance with 37 CFR 1.321(c). This rejection might also be overcome by showing that the reference is disqualified under 35 U.S.C. 103(c) as prior art in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). See MPEP § 706.02(l)(1) and § 706.02(l)(2).

As to claims 20, 28, 36, 44, Greyson discloses a computer implemented method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating texts displayed on a display

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device of a computer system, the method comprising: displaying a text object representing selected text when a visible symbol (cursor) controlled by a control device (mouse) is positioned near the selected text at a source location and when a button of the control device is in a second position (see Fig. 2b, a text block is selected); moving the text object following the visible symbol from the source location to a destination location while the button of the control device is the second position; and displaying the selected text at the second location of the second window identified via an insertion caret (214) when the button of the control device is in a first position (see Figs. 2c-2i).

Greyson differs from the claims in that the text object is not moving from a first window to a second window. However, Peters is cited to teach the data is transferred between different windows is old and well known and allows the user to view and manipulate data between multiple sources without inconvenience and lost of time (Peters col. 1, lines 24-31). Fig. 3 of Peters teaches a selected text object (shaded area 8) is moved from the source location of a first window (1) to a destination location of a second window (2). Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the computer system of Greyson to have the feature of transferring data between different windows as taught by Peters so as to "provide a visually informative and friendly interface to an operator while that operator is transferring data either within a computer program or between simultaneously active computer programs" (col.2, lines 45-48) and at the same time provide for convenient viewing and manipulation of data between multiple sources.

As to claims 21, 29, 37, Greyson teaches during moving the text object from the source location to the destination location, the selected text is deemphasized while the text object is

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emphasized (the selected text is highlighted, and it is inherent that the selected text at the source location is deemphasized when the operation is “copy”).

As to claims 22, 30, 38, Greyson teaches displaying a first bounding rectangle (an outline 211 in Fig. 2b) for the selected text of the source location in response to displaying the text object; and displaying a second bounding rectangle (outline 211 in Figs. 2c, 2d for example) for the selected text of the destination location identified by the insertion caret (214).

As to claims 23, 31, 39, Figs. 2b-2i of Greyson teaches visually zooming at least a portion of the selected text from the first bounding rectangle of the source location to the second bounding rectangle of the destination location when the button of the control device is in the first position (the outline of the selected text 211 is moved from the first location to the second location).

As to claims 24, 34, 40, Fig. 2c of Greyson teaches removing the selected text at the source location (blank area 215) after the visually zooming is completed and the selected text is displayed at the destination location.

As to claims 25, 33, 41, Fig. 2c of Greyson teaches visually snapping the text object (handle 212) to the visible symbol when the visible symbol is positioned near the selected text of the source location and when the button of the control device is in the second position.

As to claims 26, 34, 42, Fig. 2b-2i of Greyson teaches the visible symbol (cursor) is displayed in a first shape (214) when the visible symbol is positioned within a proximity of the selected text of the source location, indicating that the text object can be created and snapped to the visible symbol (during the “dragging”).

As to claims 27, 35, 43, Greyson teaches the visible symbol is displayed in a second shape when the visible symbol is positioned outside of a proximity of the selected text of the source location (it is inherent the cursor is in a different shape when no “dragging”).

12. Claims 20-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peters in view of Alpert et al (“A Technique for Improving the Interactivity of Direct Manipulation”, IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin; hereinafter Alpert).

As to claims 20, 28, 36, 44, Fig. 3 of Peters discloses a computer implemented method for providing visual feedback to a computer user while manipulating texts displayed on a display device of a computer system, the method comprising: displaying a text object representing selected text (shaded area 8) when a visible symbol (cursor) controlled by a control device is positioned near the selected text at a source location of a first window (window 1) and when a button of the control device is in a second position (col. 7, lines 20-22); moving the text object (border 9, col. 5, lines 32-38) following the visible symbol (symbol 10) from the source location of the first window to a destination location of a second window (window 2) while the button of the control device is the second position; and displaying the selected text at the second location of the second window when the button of the control device is in a first position (see Fig. 2, col. 7, lines 30-33).

Peters does not disclose displaying the selected text at the second location identified via an insertion caret. However, Alpert teaches in a copy operation within a text editor application comprising displaying the selected text at the second location identified via an insertion caret (the vertical bar indicates the moving insertion point as shown in Figs. 1 and 4). Thus, it would

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have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the computer system of Peters to have an insertion caret as taught by Alpert so as to allow the user to view the insertion location clearly and to improve the interactivity of direct manipulation.

As to claims 21, 29, 37, Alpert teaches during moving the text object from the source location to the destination location, the selected text is deemphasized while the text object is emphasized (see Figs. 1, 2).

As to claims 22, 30, 38, Peters teaches displaying a first bounding rectangle (an outline of the selected text, Fig. 3) for the selected text of the source location in response to displaying the text object; and Alpert teaches displaying a second bounding rectangle (see Figs. 4, 5) for the selected text of the destination location identified by the insertion caret (the vertical bard before “that works”, Fig. 4).

As to claims 23, 31, 39, Fig. 3 of Peters teaches visually zooming at least a portion of the selected text from the first bounding rectangle of the source location to the second bounding rectangle of the destination location when the button of the control device is in the first position (the outline 9 is moved from the first location to the second location).

As to claims 24, 34, 40, Fig. 4 of Peters teaches removing the selected text at the source location after the visually zooming is completed and the selected text is displayed at the destination location (it is inherent that the selected text is removing at the source location when the operation is “cut”).

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As to claims 25, 33, 41, Peters teaches visually snapping the text object to the visible symbol (symbol 10, Fig. 3) when the visible symbol is positioned near the selected text of the source location and when the button of the control device is in the second position.

As to claims 26, 34, 42, Peters teaches the visible symbol (symbol 10 in Fig. 3) is displayed in a first shape when the visible symbol is positioned within a proximity of the selected text of the source location, indicating that the text object can be created and snapped to the visible symbol.

As to claims 27, 35, 43, Peters teaches the visible symbol is displayed in a second shape when the visible symbol is positioned outside of a proximity of the selected text of the source location (the cursor is not in special shape when no text is dragging).

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 20-44 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's remarks regarding double patenting rejection on page 10 are not persuasive. All the patent references claim when the visible symbol (cursor) is moved the text object also moves in response thereto, and as such the text object movements follow the visible symbol's movement.

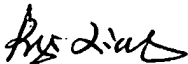
Applicant's remarks regarding Greyson and Alpert on pages 11-14 are not persuasive, see the rejections above.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Regina Liang whose telephone number is (571) 272-7693. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8AM to 5:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on (571) 272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Regina Liang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2629

2/7/08